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December 6, 2006

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WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

Art Unit 1643

Attn: Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/720,086; § 371 Date: July 23, 2001 For: *De Novo* **DNA Cytosine Methyltransferase**

Genes, Polypeptides and Uses Thereof

Inventors: LI et al.

Our Ref: 0609.4560002/KRM/DJN

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Kover P. Woulder

Karen R. Markowicz Agent for Applicants Registration No. 36,351

KRM/DJN:dbj

Enclosures 615943 1.DOC Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgr.com

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 6968

Li et al.

Art Unit: 1643

Appl. No. 09/720,086

Examiner: Harris, A. M.

§ 371 Date: July 23, 2001

Atty.Docket:0609.4560002/KRM/DJN

For:

De Novo DNA Cytosine Methyltransferase Genes, Polypeptides and Uses Thereof

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop: AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the final Office Action dated September 6, 2006, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Reply is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.